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# United States Department of the Interior

## NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

Denali National Park and Preserve

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Denali Park, Alaska 99755

### DENALI NATIONAL PARK AND PRESERVE

#### 1992 MOUNTAINEERING SUMMARY

The 1992 climbing season on Mount McKinley was record setting in the numbers of climbers and mountaineering fatalities. This year marked the most intense period of rescue in the mountain's history. Twenty-two rescue or recovery missions involving 28 climbers were conducted by the Talkeetna ranger staff and volunteers. Rescue costs incurred by the National Park Service for Mount McKinley totaled \$206,000. This cost doubled the NPS SAR expenditures of 1991. The military costs associated with the rescues was \$225,345. This brings the total for SAR costs to \$431,345. The rescues this year attracted unprecedented attention by international media. South District Ranger and Incident Commander J.D. Swed was featured in interviews and appearances for radio, television, and newspaper and magazine articles describing the heroic efforts of the rescuers and the tragedy of the injured and dead.

Together, the NPS and the Korean Alpine Federation (KAF) joined in an effort to reduce the high percentage of South Koreans involved in rescues which have occurred over the last two years. This resulted in a nine-day November visit to Seoul, Korea, by District Ranger J.D. Swed. Swed met with members of alpine and climbing clubs, search and rescue groups, and climbing school directors. He gave programs on the severity of the McKinley environment, difficulty of the ascent, and statistics involving Korean mountaineers. Swed stated that the KAF is dedicated to educating Korean climbers who wish to attempt McKinley. A long-range plan to improve communication, education, and to exchange climbers was proposed.

The National Weather Service accurately predicated a storm in early May which was described as the "worst storm to hit the mountain in 10 years." This storm brought in excess of 60 inches of snow at the 7,200' base camp in a 24-hour period, and winds over 110 mph at 14,000'! This adverse weather halted most summit attempts for several weeks and brought about a number of rescues. Both guides and climbers assisted the mountaineering rangers at the 14,200' ranger station during these rescues, which were carried out throughout intense weather conditions. In a 10-day period from the start of the storm, seven people died and six were rescued.

This was the second year the Aerospatile Lama helicopter was used in rescues on Mount McKinley. Piloted by Bill Ramsey for the second year, it was successful in a bold rescue of three Koreans at 17,700' on the Cassin Ridge. For the first time, short-haul technique was used for rescues on the mountain when two American climbers at 11,000' on the East Buttress were extracted.

The helicopter is credited for six unrefutable life saves and another six near-death saves this season.

The U.S. Army CH-47 Chinook helicopters were used in establishment and removal of the 14,200' ranger station. The 210th Air National Guard and Chinooks from Fort Wainwright assisted in rescue support.

The National Park Service revoked the concession permit of Genet Expeditions, Inc., by letter dated 1/29/92. This revocation was based on four years of marginal or unsatisfactory performance evaluations during a five-year period for unsafe practices. The owner of Genet Expeditions, Inc., appealed the decision. After several judicial proceedings, an out-of-court agreement was made and the Genet concession was reinstated. The expiration date of the Genet permit is 12/31/92. A prospectus for filling of this opportunity was announced to the public in 12/92. A concessioner will be selected prior to the climbing season commencing.

The 11,070' Mount Spurr, located 100 miles southwest of Mount McKinley in the western Alaska Range, erupted June 27th, causing glacier landings temporarily to be halted at the 7,200' basecamp on Mount McKinley. Expeditions that were beginning their climb were informed of the possibility of walking out if the ash continued to fall on the glaciers, prohibiting landings.

On September 25, 1992, the town of Talkeetna dedicated a memorial to all climbers who lost their lives on Mount McKinley and other peaks in the Alaska Range. The memorial which depicts two climbers making their way up a white pole that signifies Mount McKinley's snow covered slopes, is located in the Talkeetna cemetery.

In the winter of 1991, data was collected from an automatic meteorological censor device placed near 19,000' above Denali Pass by the Japanese Alpine Club. This instrument, which monitors winds and temperature on Mount McKinley, recorded a low of -72.4 F on February 6, 1991. From November 1990 through February 1991, the temperature remained -60 F or colder for a total of 30 days. The wind-monitoring instrument was destroyed by high winds and that data was lost.

The National Park Service conducted four 24-day patrols on Mount McKinley and numerous backcountry and hunting patrols in the Denali National Park and Preserve. We continue to staff a ranger station in Talkeetna where climbers are required to register for their expeditions.

Registration is required for all climbs and expeditions on Mount McKinley and Mount Foraker. Commencing in 1994 all climbers will be required to PREREGISTER by February 15th of the year they plan to climb. This will allow the NPS to better plan for staffing mountain patrols and reviewing registration forms in response to the increasing number of climbers. Climbers and backpackers planning trips into other areas in the South District of Denali National Park and Preserve are encouraged to register. A strong emphasis is set on the ethics of maintaining self-sufficiency and to conduct self-evacuations whenever possible. Environmentally sound and accepted sanitation procedures is a high priority in maintaining the pristine wilderness of Denali National Park and Preserve.

All statistics in this document are for portions of the Alaska Range within the boundaries of Denali National Park and Preserve. Unless specifically noted, statistics apply only for Mount McKinley.

## **STATISTICS :**

### **Number of Climbers on Mount McKinley:**

In 1992, 1,070 climbers, forming 291 expeditions from 23 countries, attempted to climb 10 different routes on Mount McKinley. This is 133 more climbers than 1991, and the most on record, with a total of 19,028 user days.

Seventy-seven percent (831) of all climbers on McKinley attempted the West Buttress. This route by far remains the most popular and the most impacted environmentally.

Americans made up the largest segment of the climbers, with 634 climbers (59 percent). A total of 269 Americans reached the summit. The rest of the countries represented on Mount McKinley this year were: Switzerland (68), United Kingdom (58), Germany (56), Japan (44), Korea (40), Canada, (37), France (24), Italy (18), Austria (17), Australia, (16), Norway (9), Mexico (8), Netherlands (8), Spain (6), Taiwan (6), Sweden (5), Scotland (4), China (4), USSR (3), Finland (2), Yugoslavia (2), and Argentina (1).

### **New Routes:**

Five new routes were reported this year in the Alaska Range. The "BMTS O.B." team of Korea climbed a new route on the South Face of McKinley in June between the "American Direct" and the "Japanese Direct."

The "CAC" (Corean Alpine Club) pioneered a new route on the East Buttress of Kichatna Spire.

Clay Wadman and Bruce Miller climbed a direct line to the Colton-Leach route on the West Face of Mount Huntington.

Randy Waitman, Clarice Dickess, Ian McRae, and Michelle Morseth climbed the West Ridge of Mount Brooks. The route took 3 days, with the team summing on August 20, 1992. They descended the North Ridge.

Jack Tackle and Bruce Normad climbed a new line on the West Buttress "Direct" June 11, 1992. The route is located just North West of Windy Corner. Twenty pitches of water ice, with mixed climbing high on the route.

**DENALI NATIONAL PARK, SOUTH DISTRICT USE PATTERNS**

MOUNTAIN/ROUTE	EXPEDITION	CLIMBERS	SUMMIT
CASSIN RIDGE	23	56	17
EAST BUTTRESS	2	8	0
MULDROW GLACIER	3	18	0
MULDROW TRAVERSE	3	8	2
N.W. BUTTRESS	0	0	0
SOUTH BUTTRESS	2	8	4
W. BUTTRESS TRVSE	8	38	16
WEST RIB	31	90	47
WEST BUTTRESS	213	831	429
SOUTHWEST FACE	5	20	0
REALITY RIDGE	0	0	0
PIONEER RIDGE	1	4	0
TOTAL McKINLEY	291	1070	515
MOUNT FORAKER	8	26	2
MOUNT HUNTER	21	51	4
MT. HUNTINGTON	3	8	2
MOOSES TOOTH	8	21	2
OTHER	44	242	n/a



## **Accidents/Incidents:**

**Frostbite on fingers, helicopter evacuation:** On May 6 the NPS mountaineering patrol rope team (mountaineering ranger Ron Johnson and SCA Keith Nicholson) climbed from 11,000' to the 14,200' camp on the West Buttress of Mount McKinley. The temperature was minus 15 F, and the wind speeds were estimated at 30 mph plus. Nicholson was wearing polypropylene glove liners and shell mittens. Just prior to arriving at the 14,200' camp Nicholson realized he had frostbite on his left thumb. A more thorough inspection was done at camp. Nicholson contracted frostbite on his little finger and thumb on his left hand and on all four finger tips of the right hand. A full recovery with no tissue damage has occurred.

**Frostbite, AMS, HAPE, HACE, helicopter evacuation:** On April 25 climbers Daryl Hinman, Robert Rockwell, and Tom Roseman attempted to climb Mount McKinley via the Muldrow Glacier route. Due to cold weather, altitude, high winds, fatigue, pulmonary edema, cerebral edema, frostbite and loss of supplies, they become incapacitated at 17,500' below Denali Pass on the West Buttress side of the mountain. On May 10, 1992, Daryl Hinman climbed down to the 14,200' ranger station to get help. The NPS Lama helicopter, piloted by Bill Ramsey, picked up Ranger Johnson and VIP Julie Culberson and flew up to 17,200'. There, Johnson and Culberson loaded Tom Roseman and Robert Rockwell into the Lama. Both expedition members were stricken by frostbite while Roseman suffered from pulmonary and cerebral edema. Both climbers were transferred to a fixed-wing and flown to Anchorage.

**Fall on headwall, helicopter evacuation:** On May 10 the rope team of Paul Kogelmann and Timothy Hagan fell approximately 500' down the headwall from 15,800'. Ranger Johnson and Culberson in the Lama then landed at the 15,200' level and loaded Hagan into the ship and flew to the 14,200' ranger station to off-load Johnson and Culberson and pick up Roseman and Rockwell. The Lama then flew to the 7200' base camp, transporting Roseman, Rockwell, and Hagan to a fixed-wing aircraft which flew them to Anchorage.

**Abandonment by fellow climbers, rescue by NPS ground team:** On May 10 the expedition of Edwige Sement, Frederick Sement, and Philippe Berthois spent the night at 17,200' without a stove. A stove had been cached at 16,200' on the West Buttress. On the afternoon of May 11, F. Sement and Berthois attempted to descend to 16,200' to retrieve the stove but turned back due to high winds and poor visibility. They decided to descend to 14,200' via the Rescue Gully, and return to 17,200' that evening with a stove. Because Ms. Sement felt she was too tired to descend, a decision was made to leave her at 17,000'. There were no other parties at 17,200'. Sement and Berthois arrived at 14,200', notified ranger Ron Johnson that they were too tired to climb back up to 17,200', and that Ms. Sement did not have a stove.

A weather forecast received that morning predicted that a severe storm would hit Mount McKinley later that evening. Given the weather forecast, Johnson decided a rescue attempt was justified. Weather conditions at 14,200' consisted of blowing snow and winds gusting up to 30 mph. Johnson, NPS VIP Matt Culberson, along with volunteers Mike Wood and Willy Peabody, left 14,200'. The rescue team ascended the Rescue Gully and arrived at 17,200'. Ms. Sement was found in her tent in good condition. The rescue team with Ms. Sement descended back to 14,200'. This expedition was issued a citation for Creating a Hazardous Condition which was precipitated by decisions they made which were inappropriate and which exposed rescuers to life-threatening hazards. This expedition also reimbursed the NPS for rescue costs.

**Fall on Cassin Ridge, Fatalities, body recovery by helicopter:**

On May 10 Giovanni Calcagno and Roberto Piombe arrived at the base of the Cassin Ridge. The two Italians stated that they intended to climb and descend the Cassin Ridge in two or three days. On May 15 the NPS ranger station at 14,200' received a report that a body was observed at the base of the South Face the previous day. It was recognized that the body was that of an Italian climber whom he had met 10 days before. On May 16 mountaineering rangers Jim Phillips and Daryl R. Miller flew in the Lama to the South Face. Phillips and Miller recovered the remains of Roberto Piombe. The body was sling loaded to 7,200' and then flown out by fixed-wing to Talkeetna. Giovanni Calcagno was located at approximately 15,400' on the first rock band on the Cassin Ridge just off route. Calcagno's body was not recovered.

**Fall on South Face, with aircraft evacuation:** On May 11 two Korean climbers, Song and Seung Hwan Lee, were descending a new route they had climbed on the south face of Mount McKinley. Due to bad weather, the pair had decided to descend to their base camp and wait. At approximately 1720, while rappelling, Seog Woo Song fell 1000' to the bottom of the South face, on the East fork of the Kahilitna Glacier. Lee witnessed Song falling past him. Indications were that the rope broke during rappell. He was found unconscious with a head injury. Another Korean party assisted in bringing Song to the 7200' base camp. Song remained semi-conscious and suffered with facial wounds, dilated left pupil, right pupil slightly reactive, moveable extremities and difficult respirations. The Alaska Air National Guard (210th), hampered by poor weather, arrived at the 7,200' base camp on May 13 and evacuated Song to Anchorage. Song remained hospitalized for three weeks where he slowly regained consciousness.

**Frostbite, AMS on the Cassin Ridge, helicopter evacuation:**

On April 28 the three-member Korean expedition flew in to climb the Cassin Ridge. They started with 15 days of food. By May 9 they had reached their high camp at 17,700'.

Their plans were to make a summit attempt the next day, but strong winds were encountered forcing the three to construct a snowcave. While working on the snow cave, their tent blew away along with most of their fuel, food, clothing and climbing equipment. The three climbers rationed food and fuel in order to wait out the weather. For over a week they rationed themselves to one cup of rice and one quart of water a day. The weather finally improved, but they were too weak to continue in the cold, windy conditions.

The leader Hyun Doo Kang had frost-bite on four fingers. The Pohang began distress calls, with information that they had no food or fuel and the leader had AMS along with frostbite. They were too weak to go up or down. Weather remained poor, and it was not until 1400 on May 17 that the NPS Lama arrived at 7,200' base camp. The Lama attempted to deliver an air drop of fuel and food at 17,700' on the Cassin Ridge. The Lama experienced extreme down drafts and forced the helicopter to land back at the 7,200' base camp.

When the winds subsided, the Lama departed with ranger Jim Phillips aboard. The Lama landed and picked up one Korean and flew to the 14,200' camp and dropped him off, returning to pick up another climber, one at a time. An Army Chinook delivered them to 7200' base camp, and a Pavehawk flew them to Anchorage. Kang suffered frostbite on all fingers and three toes. The other members, Jun and Kim, received minor frostbite on several of their toes.

**Crevasse fall, aircraft evacuation:** On May 17 three Korean climbers (Duk Sang Jang, Seong Yu Kang, and Dong Choon Seo) from the Je Ju University expedition were preparing a campsite during whiteout conditions at approximately 15,000' on the West Buttress. Their campsite was located on a snowbridge over a crevasse. The snowbridge collapsed and Kang and Seo fell 60' into the crevasse. Jang was uninjured and able to descend to 14,200' and notify Mountaineering Ranger Ron Johnson.

A decision was made to send NPS VIP's Matt and Julie Culberson and volunteers Jim Wickwire and John Roskelly to the site. Route finding was difficult due to blowing snow and low visibility. The rescue party found that the collapsed snowbridge had exposed a part of a crevasse that was 40' wide, 200' long, and about 60' deep. Kang was observed in the bottom of the crevasse, buried to his chest with debris. Culberson and Roskelly rappelled into the crevasse and dug Kang out of the debris. Culberson and Roskelly also located Seo. Brian Okonek and Bruce Blatchley arrived at the rescue site with a sked litter. Seo was worked free of the debris and was extricated from the crevasse. He was conscious and hypothermic with suspected internal injuries, injuries to his lumbar spine and pelvis, and self-inflicted lacerations to his tongue. Seo was then lowered to 14,200'. Kang was uninjured.

On May 18 a break in the weather allowed Seo to be flown to 7,200' base camp aboard the Lama. Seo was transferred to a 210th Air National Guard Pavehawk helicopter and flown to Anchorage.

**HACE/HAPE fatality at the 14,200 camp:** On May 17 a Swiss expedition was camped at 14,200' on the West Buttress of Mount McKinley. The expedition leader Roli Merz notified mountaineering ranger Ron Johnson that a team member was having difficulty breathing. Johnson and Matt Culberson were led to Alex Von Bergen's tent. Von Bergen appeared cyanotic and his pupils were fixed and dilated. Johnson notified Dr. Mike Young who arrived at the scene. CPR was initiated by Matt and Julie Culberson after a pulse was not detected. Von Bergen remained pulseless and unresponsive and was pronounced dead. The body was removed from the 14,200' station by the Lama and a fixed-wing. The body was flown to Talkeetna. An autopsy was performed at the Alaska State Crime Laboratory. The results determined Von Bergen died from pulmonary and cerebral edema.

**Fall on Orient Express, three fatalities, bodies recovered by helicopter:** At approximately mid-day on May 20, Soo Yang Yung, Sung Tak Hong, and Seong Jong Jin from the Je-Ju University Expedition were killed while attempting to descend the Orient Express route on McKinley. They had started their ascent on June 1 on the West Rib and in the course of 10 days made their ascent up to the 14,000' level. From May 14th through May 16th they encountered strong winds which kept them tent bound. The weather improved on the 17th, and the three Koreans ascended to 16,200'. On May 20, 1992, Matt and Julie Culberson discovered the bodies of Yung, Hong and Jin at the 15,800' level of the Orient Express. The bodies were recovered by the NPS helicopter.

**Crevasse fall, fatality, helicopter evacuation:** On May 4 Terrance "Mugs" Stump, a mountain guide for Mountain Trip, and his clients Nelson Max and Robert Hoffman began climbing the Japanese Ramp route on the South Buttress. On May 20 Stump and Max reached the summit via the Southeast Spur in extremely adverse weather conditions. Max suffered frostbite to his feet on the descent. On May 21 Mugs and his clients began descent from the high camp at 16,000' on the Ramp.

First on the rope team was Hoffman, followed by Max who was tied in a short distance behind and Stump at the end. The group approached a large crevasse. Hoffman stopped near the edge of this crevasse, unsure how to proceed. Stump approached the crevasse from the uphill, passing by Max and Hoffman. He was standing on the uphill lip of the crevasse when they heard a "crack," and Stump suddenly disappeared into the crevasse. Stump fell, pulling on approximately 15' of slack rope between him and Max. Max attempted to self-arrest, and was pulled towards the crevasse for approximately 20' before stopping. The rope between him and Stump became slack.



Feeling in a very precarious position on the uphill side of the crevasse, Max cut the rope and tied it to a ski pole. They traversed around and approached the accident site from below. Max rappelled into the crevasse but was unable to locate Stump. He described the debris as a large volume of very hard blocks of dense snow and blue ice. The crevasse was at least 60' deeper from the bottom of the large blocks of ice wedged into it. There was no sign of Stump. Because of the perceived danger, their condition, the weather, and low probability of survival, Max and Hoffman decided to abandon their efforts to recover Stump.

On May 22 another expedition heard distress calls from Max and Hoffman and assisted them in getting a message to NPS. Hoffman and Max suffered frostbite and were assisted to 11,400'. The Lama transported Max and Hoffman to 7,200'. They were flown to Anchorage by fixed-wing aircraft. The Lama returned to the accident site with NPS rangers aboard. A large volume of debris with big chunks of snow and blue ice was wedged into the crevasse, as Hoffman and Max described. Because the incident occurred more than 25 hours earlier, and the exposure of rescuers to excessive hazards, a recovery effort was not initiated. Max was admitted to the Humana Hospital with frostbite on both feet.

**Fall above Denali Pass, helicopter evacuation:** On May 28 the German team of Gerhard Seibert and Christoph Mach ascended the upper West Rib. They decided not to make a summit attempt and traverse down the West Buttress route. As they descended to Denali Pass, Mach led the rope team when Seibert fell. Seibert suffered head lacerations from the fall and remained unconscious. Mach set up a tent and began calling for help on their CB.

On May 29 Ranger Daryl R. Miller mounted a ground rescue consisting of Billy Shott, Mike Abbott, and Dr. Collin Grisson, all VIP's working on the NPS Mountaineering patrol. The rescue team left 14,200' and reached the 17,200' camp. VIP Andy Lapkass joined the team at 17,200'. The rescue party reached Mach and Seibert 19,400' and found Seibert to have regained conscious. Mach suffered frostbite on his left hand and Seibert was experiencing double-vision. The rescue team began lowering the two climbers and reached the 17,200'. The Lama landed and transported both injured climbers to 7,200', and a 210th Air National Guard Pavehawk flew them to Anchorage.

**Fall on the Messner, four fatalities, body recovery by helicopter:** On May 31 four Canadians fell approximately 3,000' to their deaths from 19,300' on the Messner Couloir. The team departed the 17,200' camp on the West Buttress on May 30. The group was not seen again until that evening as they descended the summit ridge at 20,000'. The weather at 17,200' was deteriorating, with winds gusting up to 60 mph. 7,200' base camp was notified by an expedition that the Canadians had not returned to 17,200'.

The weather cleared and a search plane with Ranger Roger Robinson aboard left for the search area. Robinson saw four climbers traversing between 19,200' and 19,300' on the Messner Couloir. Robinson notified Ranger Daryl Miller at 14,200' Ranger Station. Ranger Miller was able to observe the group with the use of binoculars. Minutes later the climber in the back of the rope team fell, dragging the rest of the members down some 3,000' over the rock bands and through the hourglass of the couloir. They stopped above an icefall at approximately 15,800'.

Ranger Miller, along with NPS VIP's Collin Grisson, Billy Shott, and Mike Abbott, departed for the accident site. The visibility at 15,000' was 25'. The snow conditions were extremely unstable, with the slope settling and the glacier cracking beneath. The patrol unanimously concurred that it was unsafe to continue the search given the conditions. On June 1 the visibility had improved. The rescue team departed and reached the accident site. Three bodies were found at 15,800' with a fourth 200' higher. The bodies were identified as the Canadian team. The slope was still unstable, and a body recovery with the ground team was not possible. The NPS Lama recovered the bodies using a grappling hook. The bodies were flown to 7,200' base camp and flown by fixed-wing to Talkeetna.

**Avalanche on East Buttress, short haul by helicopter:** On June 6 the team of Bob Archbold and Allen Sanderson left their 11,000' camp climbing up the East Buttress of Mount McKinley. They made a decision to descend because Archbold was not comfortable with the route. While descending the route, they heard and saw an icefall avalanche start at approximately 13,000' on their route. Sanderson and Archbold were hit by the avalanche. Sanderson, uninjured, observed the slack rope beneath him reaching into the crevasse.

The slide was estimated to be 100 meters wide with debris running 200 meters further down the slope. Archbold was carried down slope some 150' and 60' down into a crevasse. Archbold was wedged into the crevasse but managed to free himself and his pack. He was then able to jumar out of the crevasse. He had sustained a significant head wound and was complaining of lower leg pain. They descended to their 11,000' camp. Sanderson was able to contact a pilot with a CB radio.

The NPS responded in the Lama and performed the first short haul extrication. Using screamer suits, Sanderson and Archbold were short-hauled to a staging area on the Ruth Glacier. The actual short-haul operation was less than three minutes, from 11000' on the East Buttress to the Mountain House on the Ruth Glacier. Both climbers were flown to a Anchorage hospital.

**Avalanche on Mount Foraker, two fatalities, one self-evacuation:** On the morning of June 14, Tom Walter, Ritt Kellogg, and Colby Coombs skied to the base of the Pink Panther Route, on Mount

Foraker and started their ascent.

On June 18 the weather was poor, with additional snow accumulation. Early in the evening of the 18th, the weather cleared and the climbers began climbing the final rock buttress which marks the last third of the route. The weather remained good until the final 300', when it deteriorated with wind and poor visibility. They continued to climb up the final 50 to 60 degree snow and ice slope above the rock buttress. At this time Walter was leading the rope team with Coombs in the middle and Kellogg at the end. They were climbing simultaneously when they were hit with an avalanche. As Coombs was hit from snow above, he began to self-arrest with his ice axe. He was pushed downhill by the avalanche debris for approximately 20' before being flipped over backwards and tumbling out of control. Coombs was knocked unconscious.

Early in the morning of June 19, Coombs regained consciousness and found himself hanging by the climbing rope in the upper part of the rock buttress at approximately 12,300'. He was experiencing pain over his entire body and hypothermia. Walter was hanging from a rope a short distance away and Coombs was able to climb over to him. There was no sign of life. Kellogg was hanging below upside down and also showed no signs of life. Coombs spent the day and night of June 19th resting. On the morning of the 20th, Coombs starting descending the Southeast Ridge. On June 25 he arrived at the 7,200' basecamp. Because of bad weather, Coombs remained at basecamp until June 28, and then was flown to the hospital in Anchorage. He was diagnosed with a fractured cervical vertebrae, fractured left ankle, and fractured left scapula.

**ACUTE MOUNTAIN SICKNESS:** 105 cases (10%) of climbers reported symptoms of AMS:

- \* 55 (52%) were mild
- \* 40 (38%) were moderate
- \* 10 (9%) were severe

**FROSTBITE:** 38 cases (4%) reported some degree of frostbite:

- \* 21 (55%) were mild
- \* 11 (28%) required physician care
- \* 6 (16%) required hospitalization

**HAPE:** 12 cases (1%) reported symptoms of HAPE

- \* 9 were treated at the 14,200 ranger station with oxygen and advised to descend.
- \* 3 required hospitalization

**HACE:** 4 cases (.3%) reported symptoms of HACE

- \* 2 were treated on the mountain and advised to descend to a lower altitude
- \* 2 required hospitalization

# CLIMBING DEATHS ON MOUNT MCKINLEY

YEAR	NAME	(AGE)	YEAR	NAME	(AGE)
1932	* Carpe, Allen	(38)	1986	Broisat, Thierrey	(30)
	Koven, Theodore	(28)		Legras, Michel	(27)
1954	* Thayer, Elton	(27)		Rauber, Rolf	(23)
1967	Batkin, Jacques	(36)		Beyeler, Bruno	(22)
	* Clark, F. Jerry	(31)	1987	Jankowiak, Piotr	(35)
	* McLaughlin, Mark	(23)		* Hoover, Brian	(26)
	* Taylor, Walter	(24)	1988	* Salerno, Lynn	(31)
	* Lucterland, Dennis	(24)		* Munoz, Ignacio	(32)
	* Janes, Henery	(25)	1989	Massey, Chris	(39)
	* Russel, John	(23)		Lang, Jon	(45)
	* Taylor, Steve	(22)		Dixon, Julian	(37)
1969	* Cole, Gary	(32)		Teruo, Saegusa	(31)
1970	* Smith, Jerrold	(27)		Kozo, Kamatsu	(34)
	* Luz, John	(21)		Noboru, Yamada	(39)
1971	Bullard, Robert	(42)	1990	Ito, Hiraki	(38)
	Jaidinger, Eugene	(20)		* Koshuta, Michael	(33)
1972	Watanabe, Sachiko	(24)		* Jones, Stuart	(29)
	Toyama, Mitsuko	(29)	1991	NONE	
	Yajima, Nobue	(30)	1992	* Calcagno, Giovanni	(48)
1974	Okada, Yoshikaza	(22)		Piombo, Roberto	(30)
	Hatakenaka, Tamo	(40)		Von Bergen, Alex	(42)
1976	Guleke, Edward	(24)		Jin, Seong-Jong	(26)
	Ebner, Joseph	(28)		Yung, Soo Yang	(29)
	Rose, Richard	(41)		Hong, Sung Tak	(25)
	* Schmidt, Gunther	(35)		* Stump, Terrance	(41)
1979	Sang-Don Ko	(30)		Proulx, Alain	(38)
	Li-Kyo Lee	(24)		Proulx, Christian	(18)
1980	Herman, Gerold	(43)		Potvin, Alain	(38)
	* Loibl, Manfred	(35)		Grandchamp, Maurice	(29)
	* Huschke, Margret	(38)			
	Novotny, Jiri	(33)			
	* Carroll, David	(31)			
	* Hanson, George	(25)			
	* Lewis, Sean	(33)			
	* Chase, Alan	(23)			
1981	* Waterman, John	(28)			
	Kerrebrock, Chris	(25)			
	* Kinoshita, Makoto	(28)			
	* Ohnishi, Masuaki	(35)			
	* Ozaki, Osamu	(25)			
	Mitsuka, Yasuhiro	(26)			
1982	NONE				
1983	* Frank, Robert	(38)			
	Van Dalsem, Jacquelin	(49)			
1984	* Uemura, Naomi	(40)			
	* Nadler, Peter	(36)			
1985	Williams, Marc	(26)			
	Pfeffer, Bernhard	(38)			

\* Body not recovered



MOUNT MCKINLEY, SOUTH PEAK  
ATTEMPTS, FAILURES & SUCCESSES  
1903-1992

YR	AT	FL	SU	%SU	YR	AT	FL	SU	%SU
1903	8	8	0	0	1968	40	10	30	75
1910	15	15	0	0	1969	71	22	49	69
1912	7	7	0	0	1970	124	52	72	58
1913	4	0	4	100	1971	163	115	48	29.4
1932	9	5	4	44	1972	181	101	80	44.2
1942	8	1	7	87.5	1973	203	95	108	53.2
1947	5	4	11	73.3	1974	282	143	139	49.3
1948	3	0	3	100	1975	362	231	131	36.2
1951	8	0	8	100	1976	508	169	339	66.7
1952	29	19	10	34.5	1977	360	76	284	78.9
1953	9	6	3	33.3	1978	459	189	270	58.8
1954	13	0	13	100	1979	533	182	351	65.9
1955	4	4	0	0	1980	659	376	283	42.9
1956	18	18	0	0	1981	612	291	321	52.5
1957	8	8	0	0	1982	696	386	310	44.5
1958	12	2	10	83.3	1983	709	235	474	66.
1959	8	4	4	50	1984	695	371	324	46.6
1960	24	1	23	95.8	1985	645	324	321	49.8
1961	31	11	20	64.5	1986	755	349	406	53.8
1962	40	15	25	62.5	1987	817	566	251	30.7
1963	50	21	29	58	1988	916	365	551	60.2
1964	37	12	25	67.6	1989	1009	492	517	51.2
1965	31	28	3	9.7	1990	998	425	573	51.4
1966	22	15	7	31.8	1991	935	378	557	59.5
1967	83	20	63	75.9	1992	1070	555	515	48.1

## Administrative notes for 1992:

- \* The south District staff consisted of:

South District Ranger:	J.D. Swed
Mountaineering Rangers:	Ron Johnson Daryl R. Miller Jim Phillips Roger Robinson
Administrative Clerk:	Kathy Sullivan
Helicopter Manager:	Scott Beattie
Helicopter Pilot:	Bill Ramsey
Student Conservation Aid:	Keith Nickolson

\* A special recognition must be made to VIP's who were on the Denali patrols with mountaineering rangers. They had the task of dealing with the multitudinous rescues and body recoveries in severe weather. Due to the number of search and rescue missions and the shortage of NPS personnel, we also used a number of climbers hired in emergency situations. We are forever indebted to the many guides and climbers who assisted in these rescue situations on Mount McKinley.

### Volunteers In the Park (VIP) on Denali patrols:

Matt Culberson	Randy Waitman
Julie Culberson	Rowan Laver
Sheryl Gurtner	Rupert Wedgewood
Billy Shott	Leslie Reid
Jeff Brink	Collin Grisson
Jeff Moss	Mike Abbott

- \* A portable radio repeater was once again installed in the Ramparts west of the lower Kahilitna Glacier. This repeater was an integral part in communications between the Talkeetna Ranger Station and the mountaineering patrols.

For more information or to request mountaineering information and/or registration forms, please contact the Talkeetna Ranger Station, P.O. Box 588, Talkeetna, Alaska 99676. Telephone: (907) 733-2231.

Daryl R. Miller  
Mountaineering Ranger

J.D. Swed  
South District Ranger